

**TOP SECRET**

10 May 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting of 10 May 1951 on "CANCELLATION"

1. A meeting was held on 10 May 1951 by the Administrative Planning Staff set up under Mr. Joseph Phillips in the Department of State to implement and coordinate Plans "CANCELLATION" (CIA) and "Death in the Family" (Department of State). Representatives to this planning group are Mr. Phillips, Department of State; Col. Droz, Air Force; Col. MacKenzie, Army; Lt. Cmdr. Fitzpatrick and Cmdr. Scherbatoff, Navy; [ ] CIA.

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2. At this meeting there was a general discussion of intelligence facilities which are available and which should be made available to implement these plans. It was generally agreed that background intelligence was available but that more specific intelligence was essential to the success of the planning group.

3. Each representative was requested to prepare a paper containing the following information estimated to be necessary to successfully prepare an overall plan:

- a. Policy decisions necessary;
- b. Capabilities;
  - (1) Intelligence,
  - (2) Mechanisms,
- c. Lack of capabilities;
- d. Recommendations on
  - (1) Policy
  - (2) Intelligence staff and analysis unit,
  - (3) Capabilities.

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4. Each representative was also asked to prepare by 21 May a draft contingency plan for action to be taken by their agency on Stalin's death based on:

- a. Current intelligence;
- b. Capabilities.

5. The CIA representative was also asked to prepare a paper presenting ideas on an overt propaganda plan based on covert potentialities for providing overt propaganda pgs. The plan mentioned in paragraph one is to be based on the assumption that it is U. S. Government policy to cause as much disruption as possible in the Soviet regime at the time of or prior to Stalin's impending death.

6. In this connection Mr. Phillips pointed out that although a definite policy decision had not yet been arrived at, it was apparent that this was the decision that would be reached when a plan was presented to the Policy Planning Staff. He felt that presentation of a plan was necessary in order to precipitate a decision on this matter.

7. It is suggested that in accordance with [redacted] memo of 8 May 1951 this request should be turned over to the Policy and Strategic Plans Branch for implementation.

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[redacted]

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